2004 ELECTION

U.S. SENATOR



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I live in a world of confused realities. The measures presently taken by the congress and president purport to protect freedom and safety, but threats nevertheless increase.

I don't feel safer or freer, but instead feel like a prisoner of failed political and economic policies. I see continuation of war, a falling dollar and the abridgement of rights. Thomas Jefferson said: "When government fears the people, there is liberty. When the people fear the government, there is tyranny."

In the political arena, enemies abound. Politicians coin program monikers, like:" war on terror, war on drugs or even war itself, invented to attack "evils." Followed by oppressive legislation and funding, monies are allocated to develop police like agencies, often increasing a harm beyond the evils they hope to remove. These agencies are never abolished. They survive elections, administrations and congresses, while their policies continue to affect events and increase government powers.

We live within an increasing culture of militarism. 725 military bases sprinkle the globe resembling colonies, giving the appearance of empire. A preponderance of our news, movies, and political issues are infected with the theme of militarism. Local politicians and newspapers applaud congressional funding for bases, proclaiming an economic boon. Instead, the monies become monopolized by a military that actually represses the civilian economy, occupying and inflating land prices, while promoting secrecy and empire.

Legislation to protect society, not the individual, now extant, increases oppression. We must shift the paradigm from freedom for the State to freedom for the individual.